

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 01512 261839Z
ACTION ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W
-----261841Z 128627 /50

P R 261822Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4784

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 1512

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: IOP/M - MEDIA REACTION REPORT

AN AFP DISPATCH CLAIMED AND THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT DENIED THAT PRESIDENT DUVALIER HAD WARNED THE U.S. ABOUT INTERFERING IN HAITI'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS IN HIS APRIL 22 SPEECH MARKING HIS 6TH YEAR IN POWER.

DATED APRIL 22 AND CARRIED BY SEVERAL MEDIA OVER THE WEEKEND, THE AFP ARTICLE SAID THE SPEECH "IS AN UNEQUIVOCAL WARNING TO THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION, ACCORDING TO POLITICAL OBSERVERS,...AND A CATEGORICAL DENIAL OF RUMORS WHICH CIRCULATED LATELY...ACCORDING TO WHICH CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES CONCERNING THE PRESIDENCY FOR LIFE WERE TO HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT UNDER AMERICAN PRESSURE."

INFORMATION MINISTER PIERRE GOUSSE DEFENDED THE SPEECH IN AN APRIL 24 REBUTTAL, HOWEVER, AND DISCLAIMED ANY ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT:

" THAT NEWS AGENCIES FEEL OBLIGED TO FIND IN SIMPLE, PRECISE AND DIRECT LANGUAGE 'A WARNING' OR SIMILAR INTENTIONS IS TO EXCEED THE THOUGHT OF THE PRESIDENT FOR LIFE OF THE REPUBLIC WHO, IN VIEW OF RUMORS REPORTED BY THE FOREIGN PRESSE, JUDGED IT OPPORTUNE AND NECESSARY TO REAFFIRM
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THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION....."

THERE WAS NO COMMENTARY, NEITHER ON THE ORIGINAL AFP DISPATCH NOR ON THE REBUTTAL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING, SPEECHES
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Disposition Comment:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, HA, US
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